

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W

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R 102038Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2701

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM,UN

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT: INFORMAL WEO  
GROUP MEETING

1. AT NORWEGIAN REQUEST, WEST EUROPEAN AND OTHERS (WEO)  
GROUP MET INFORMALLY AT UK MISSION MARCH 9 TO DISCUSS  
(A) SIZE OF SPECIAL SESSION PREPCOM BUREAU AND (B)  
NORWAY'S CANDIDACY FOR A VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PREPCOM.

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2. ALL PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT A FIVE-MEMBER BUREAU  
(CHAIRMAN, THREE VICE-CHAIRMEN, RAPPORTEUR), AS PROPOSED  
BY THE NONALIGNED, WAS PREFERABLE FROM THE WESTERN  
STANDPOINT. ON THE OTHER HAND, NO DELEGATION EXPRESSED  
STRONG OBJECTION TO IDEA OF A TEN-MEMBER BUREAU, AS FAVORED  
BY THE EAST EUROPEAN GROUP, IF THIS IDEA GAINED GENERAL  
ACCEPTANCE. HOWEVER, WEO DELEGATIONS THOUGHT IT SHOULD

BE LEFT TO SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES TO ARGUE THIS POINT WITH THE NONALIGNED, WHO HAVE SO FAR TAKEN A HARD LINE ON LIMITING THE BUREAU'S SIZE.

3. NORWEGIAN REP (VRAALSEN) REPORTED THAT BOTH YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA WERE SEEKING EE SEAT ON BUREAU. SWEDISH REP INFORMED US PRIVATELY THAT SOVIETS AND POLES HAVE SAID THAT GDR WOULD ALSO BE A CANDIDATE, THOUGH GDR MISSION IS APPARENTLY NOT YET AWARE OF THIS.

4. SWEDEN AND CANADA UNRESERVEDLY ENDORSED NORWEGIAN CANDIDACY TO REPRESENT WEO GROUP ON PREPCOM BUREAU. EC-9 REPS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION REACHED MONDAY, EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR NORWAY ON ASSUMPTION THAT BUREAU WOULD BE LIMITED TO FIVE; IF IT WERE TO BE LARGER, THEY WOULD HAVE TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION (I.E., THEY WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSING A MEMBER OF THE NINE).

5. UK REP (LOGAN) RECALLED WEO DECISION IN JANUARY TO SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT THE PARTICIPATION, AS OBSERVERS, OF INTERESTED NON-MEMBERS OF THE PREPCOM, NOTING THAT GROUP SHOULD GIVE THOUGHT TO SPECIFICS OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT, DRAWING ON APPROPRIATE PRECEDENTS, BEFORE SURFACING A FORMAL PROPOSAL AT FIRST PREPCOM MEETING. NORWEGIAN REP VOLUNTEERED TO TAKE LEAD IN DEVELOPING SUITABLE FORMULA IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER WEO DELEGATIONS.

6. SEVERAL REPS FROM NATO COUNTRIES, IN CORRIDOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONVERSATIONS WITH US REPS, EXPRESSED DESIRE NOT TO USE WEO GROUP AS BASIC FORUM FOR WESTERN CONSULTATIONS, SINCE IT INCLUDES SOME NON-MEMBERS OF PREPCOM AND SOME NEUTRALS, WHILE EXCLUDING JAPAN. CANADIANS OFFERED TO PROPOSE AND HOST SOME TIME NEXT WEEK A MEETING LIMITED TO BARTON GROUP MEMBERS OF THE PREPCOM, WITH POSSIBLE ADDITION OF TURKEY. (TURKS, WHO WERE VERY COOPERATIVE AND HELPFUL TO USDEL AT LAST UNGA., HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN GREATER INVOLVEMENT IN WESTERN CONSULTATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH SPECIAL SESSION ISSUES.) THIS NEW GROUP WOULD CONSIST OF AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN, NORWAY, TURKEY, UK, AND US. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE A DESIRABLE CORE GROUP FOR WESTERN CONSULTATIONS THROUGHOUT THE SPECIAL SESSION PREPARATORY PHASE. ACCORDINGLY, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, WE PLAN TO SUPPORT THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL AND AGREE TO FIRST MEETING OF THIS GROUP NEXT WEEK. END COMMENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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